

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for transmitting enhanced originator information over a communications network, comprising:

receiving information elements selected by an originator terminal from a database, said retrieving based upon at least one of a service plan and a terminal capability associated with a recipient terminal; and

transmitting a communication including said information elements to said recipient terminal prior to establishing a communications session with said recipient terminal;

wherein said transmitting is conducted over at least one of:

- an Internet Protocol network;
- a public switched telephone network;
- a wireless local area network;
- a wireless network;
- a cable network;
- a fiber optic network;
- a video network; and
- a satellite network.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said terminal capability relates to at least one of a:

terminal device type including at least one of:

- a personal computer;
- a network computer;
- a wireless mobile telephone;
- a wireless mobile computer device;
- a facsimile;
- a network appliance; and
- a wireline telephone; and

terminal device technology features including at least one of:

- binary-based caller identification feature; and
- graphical features.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said information elements include at least one of:

- font and character style capabilities;
- a logo;
- an image;
- audio;
- multi-media;
- animation;
- VPIM;
- a uniform resource locator;
- a physical location address;
- video;
- an alerting tone; and
- advertising material.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein said communication comprises at least one of:

- voice;
- data;
- video;
- messaging;
- instant messaging; and
- paging.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein said communication including said information elements are generated by said communications network.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said communications network includes at least one of:

- a circuit-switched network;
- a packet-switched network;
- a wireless network;
- an asynchronous transfer mode network; and
- a Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS).

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said service plans are stored in a service profile database, said plans stored in a dual format operable for accommodating both graphically-enabled caller identification devices and caller identification devices that are not graphically enabled.

8. A storage medium including machine-readable computer program code for transmitting enhanced originator information over a communications network, said storage medium including instructions for causing a server to implement a method comprising:

receiving information elements selected by an originator terminal from a database, said retrieving based upon at least one of a service plan and a terminal capability associated with a recipient terminal; and

transmitting a communication including said information elements to said recipient terminal prior to establishing a communications session with said recipient terminal;

wherein said transmitting is conducted over at least one of:

- an Internet Protocol network;
- a public switched telephone network;
- a wireless local area network;
- a wireless network;
- a cable network;
- a fiber optic network;
- a video network; and
- a satellite network.

9. The storage medium of claim 8, wherein said terminal capability relates to at least one of a:

terminal device type including at least one of:

- a personal computer;
- a network computer;
- a wireless mobile telephone;
- a wireless mobile computer device;
- a facsimile;
- a network appliance; and
- a wireline telephone; and

terminal device technology features including at least one of:

- binary-based caller identification feature; and
- graphical features.

10. The storage medium of claim 8, wherein said information elements include at least one of:

- font and character style capabilities;
- a logo;
- an image;
- audio;
- multi-media;
- animation;
- VPIM;
- a uniform resource locator;
- a physical location address;
- video;
- an alerting tone; and
- advertising material.

11. The storage medium of claim 8, wherein said communication comprises at least one of:

- voice;
- data;
- video;
- messaging;
- instant messaging; and
- paging.

12. The storage medium of claim 8, wherein said communication including said information elements are generated by said communications network.

13. The storage medium of claim 8, wherein said communications network includes at least one of:

- a circuit-switched network;
- a packet-switched network;
- a wireless network;
- an asynchronous transfer mode network; and
- a Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS).

14. The storage medium of claim 8, wherein said service plans are stored in a service profile database, said plans stored in a dual format operable for accommodating both graphically-enabled caller identification devices and caller identification devices that are not graphically enabled.

15. A system for transmitting enhanced originator information over a communications network comprising:

- a caller identification-enabled recipient terminal, said recipient terminal operating over a communications network via a service provider;
- an originator terminal operating over a communications network via a service provider;
- an originator communications information database;
- an originator identification system executing over said communications network, said originator identification system performing:
 - receiving information elements selected by an originator terminal from a database, said retrieving based upon at least one of a service plan and a terminal capability associated with a recipient terminal; and
 - transmitting a communication including said information elements to said recipient terminal prior to establishing a communications session with said recipient terminal;

wherein said transmitting is conducted over at least one of:

- an Internet Protocol network;
- a public switched telephone network;
- a wireless local area network;
- a wireless network;
- a cable network;
- a fiber optic network;
- a video network; and
- a satellite network.

16. The system of claim 15, further comprising a service profile database operable for storing at least one of a service plan and terminal capabilities, said terminal capabilities relating to at least one of a:

terminal device type including at least one of:

- a personal computer;
- a network computer;
- a wireless mobile telephone;
- a wireless mobile computer device;
- a facsimile;
- a network appliance; and
- a wireline telephone; and

terminal device technology features including at least one of:

- binary-based caller identification feature; and
- graphical features.

17. The system of claim 15, wherein said information elements include at least one of:

font and character style capabilities;

a logo;

an image;

audio;

multi-media;

animation;

VPIM;

a uniform resource locator;

a physical location address;

video;

an alerting tone; and

advertising material.

18. The system of claim 15, wherein said communication comprises at least one of:

- voice;
- data;
- video;
- messaging;
- instant messaging; and
- paging.

19. The system of claim 15, wherein said communications network includes at least one of:

- a circuit-switched network;
- a packet-switched network;
- a wireless network; and
- an asynchronous transfer mode network
- a Multiprotocol Label Switching (MPLS).

20. A terminal device for transmitting enhanced originator information over a communications network, said terminal device enabled with caller identification, comprising:

an originator identification system in communication with said terminal device, said terminal device operating over a communications network via a service provider; and

a link to an originator communications information database;

wherein said terminal device receives information associated with an originator of a communication, said information including information elements comprising at least one of:

font and character style capabilities;

a logo;

an image;

audio;

multi-media;

animation;

VPIM;

a uniform resource locator;

a physical location address;

video;

an alerting tone; and

advertising material.